



**DISCUSSION ITEM**  
**Agenda Item # 6**

**AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY**

**Meeting Date:** June 23, 2020

**Subject:** Resolution No. 2020-25: Main, State, and Fourth Streets Temporary Closure for COVID-19 Recovery Open Streets Program

**Prepared by:** Dave Brees, Special Projects Manager

**Reviewed by:** Jim Sandoval, Engineering Services Director

**Approved by:** Chris Jordan, City Manager

**Attachments:** 1) Resolution No. 2020-25: Main, State, and Fourth Streets Temporary Closure for COVID-19 Recovery Open Streets Program  
2) Main, State, and Fourth Streets Temporary Closure Map

**Initiated by:**  
City Council

**Previous Council Consideration:**  
May 5, 2020, May 26, 2020, June 9, 2020

**Fiscal Impact:**

The following is an updated cost estimate for the Downtown COVID-19 Recovery Open Streets Program:

\$35K – 16 temporary ADA ramps

\$5K – Bicycle racks

\$25K – Signage and misc. expenses

\$15K – Transportation consultants Traffic Patterns

\$5K – City staff overtime cost

**\$85K – Estimated total cost through October 2020**

The \$65K in estimated costs for the first three items above will be funded through the General Fund Non-Departmental Budget (52400-5280). The transportation consulting cost would be funded through the existing on-call services contract with Traffic Patterns and the overtime cost would be charged to the operating budget of the department doing the work.

**Environmental Review:**

This project is statutorily exempt per section 15268 of the Guidelines for the California Environmental Quality Act because the issuance of the Special Events Permit is a ministerial action.

---

City Manager

*CJ*

**Reviewed By:**

City Attorney

*JH*

Finance Director

*SE*

---



**Subject:** Resolution No. 2020-25: Main, State, and Fourth Streets Temporary Closure for COVID-19 Recovery Open Streets Program

---

**Policy Question for Council Consideration:**

- Does Council desire to continue the program of temporary closure of Main and State Streets, and a portion of 4<sup>th</sup> Street at State, to enable compliant social distancing intended to attract patrons Downtown for increased vibrancy for businesses?

**Summary:**

- Council directed staff to proceed with the temporary closing of Main, State, and Fourth Streets Thursday mornings from six o'clock AM through Monday six o'clock AM beginning Thursday, June 18, 2020
- Santa Clara County June 5, 2020 Health Order allows outdoor dining service at restaurants and in-store retail shopping to occur under certain restrictions
- The ongoing temporary street closures requires approval by resolution
- On June 23<sup>rd</sup> staff will present an update to the Council on the successes and challenges of the first street closure event from June 18<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Adopt Resolution No. 2020-25: Main, State, and Fourth Streets Temporary Closure for COVID-19 Recovery Open Streets Program

**Purpose**

Approve Resolution No. 2020-25: Main, State, and Fourth Streets Temporary Closure for COVID-19 Recovery Open Streets Program in support of the City's efforts to implement open streets/placemaking opportunities within the downtown business district. Additionally, on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, staff will provide an update to the Council on the successes and challenges of the first street closure event from June 18<sup>th</sup> through June 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Background**

At the June 9, 2020 City Council meeting staff presented four design options and feedback from Downtown retail, special services and restaurant businesses for consideration, which would meet the latest Santa Clara County Health Order and allow expansion of outdoor dining and retail opportunities on Main, State, and Fourth Streets. Council approved Design Option C which, calls for the block by block closure of Main, State, Fourth Streets Thursday mornings, six o'clock AM through Monday mornings at six o'clock AM. The cross streets of First, Second, Third Streets would remain open to through traffic. The temporary street closures were set to begin Thursday, June 18, 2020.

**Discussion/Analysis**

A Special Event permit for the first two weekend street closures has been issued by the Police Department to allow the initial program to commence. A resolution by the City Council approving



**Subject:** Resolution No. 2020-25: Main, State, and Fourth Streets Temporary Closure for COVID-19 Recovery Open Streets Program

---

the ongoing street closure is required. Restaurants would be allowed to set up table and chairs in the streets directly in front of each respective business and retail stores may set up display tables.

City staff and representatives from the Los Altos Chamber of Commerce, Los Altos Village Association, and volunteers have worked together to develop guidelines for downtown merchants and restaurants which comply with the current COVID-19 Health orders. The guidelines address both the social distancing requirements and identify the program's primary goals of maximizing safe customer access to all businesses. Staff is in the process of developing specific data points to assist in the collection of information to determine the impacts of these efforts.

### Options

- 1) Option #1 Adopt Resolution No. 2020-25: Main, State, and Fourth Streets Temporary Closure for COVID-19 Recovery Open Streets Program to allow businesses to expand sales and services in the Public Right-of-Way

**Advantages:** The closure of Main, State, and Fourth Streets allows downtown businesses to expand operations in order to meet both State and County Health Orders and meet Council's goal of supporting Los Altos business.

**Disadvantages:** Direct vehicle access to some businesses will be limited during the period of street closures.

- 2) Option #2 Do not adoption the proposed resolution and maintain the streets under the current conditions

**Advantages:** Allows direct vehicle access to downtown businesses whenever the business is open.

**Disadvantages:** Does not meet the Council's goal of supporting downtown businesses under the current State and County Health Orders including social distancing requirements.

### Recommendation

The staff recommends Option 1, the adoption of Resolution No. 2020-25: Main, State, and Fourth Streets Temporary Closure for COVID-19 Recovery Open Streets Program

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-25**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS  
TEMPORARILY CLOSING PORTIONS OF MAIN, STATE, AND FOURTH  
STREETS TO VEHICLE TRAFFIC PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA VEHICLE  
CODE SECTION 21101 TO FACILITATE OUTDOOR DINING AND RETAIL  
OPERATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, the Los Altos City Manager, in his capacity as the City's Director of Emergency Services, proclaimed the existence of a local emergency in response to the escalation of COVID 19 to a pandemic, and on March 17, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution 2020-08 ratifying and continuing the proclamation of local emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, March 31, 2020, April 29, 2020, May 18, 2020, and June 1, 2020, the Santa Clara County Health Officer issued successive orders relating to the spread of COVID-19, requiring all individuals residing in the County to shelter in their places of residence subject to limited exceptions; and

**WHEREAS**, the June 1, 2020 order of the Santa Clara County Health Officer allowed outdoor dining and retail operations that had been prohibited under prior orders to resume subject to specified conditions, effective June 5, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, the Governor issued a statewide shelter-in-place order, which has also since been modified to allow certain business activities to resume subject to restrictions; and

**WHEREAS**, downtown Los Altos provides a wide variety of retail and personal services shops and restaurants that have been severely impacted by state and county public health orders; and

**WHEREAS**, closing portions of these streets temporarily will facilitate businesses to resume operations in compliance with the state and county public health orders; and

**WHEREAS**, subdivision (e) of California Vehicle Code Section 21101 authorizes local authorities, by resolution, to close a portion of any street temporarily for celebrations, parades, special events, or other purposes when the closing is necessary for the safety and protection of persons who are to use that portion of the street during the temporary closure.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of Los Altos that:

1. Portions of Main, State, and Fourth Streets depicted in **Exhibit A** hereto shall be closed to vehicular traffic from 6:00 a.m. Thursday mornings through approximately 6:00 a.m. Monday mornings, July 2, 2020, to October 26, 2020, to facilitate the use of the public right-of-way by businesses and restaurants.

2. The cross streets of First, Second, and Third Streets will remain open throughout the foregoing street closure.
3. The City Council finds that the street closure authorized hereby is both temporary in nature and necessary for the safety and protection of persons who will use the right-of-way for dining, shopping, and personal services during the closure.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Altos at a meeting thereof on the 23 day of June 2020 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

---

Janis C. Pepper, MAYOR

Attest:

---

Andrea Chelemengos, MMC, CITY CLERK

Idea C  
Main Street and State Street Closures  
(1st Street to 4th Street)

DRAFT



**LEGEND**

- Restaurant
- Retail
- Personal Services
- Office
- Bank

**Traffic Patterns**  
P.O. Box 25  
Denville, CA 94626  
© 1988-2015  
www.trafficpatterns.net  
info@trafficpatterns.net



**Record Drawings**

Project Engineer:	Date:
Checker:	Date:
Public Works Inspector:	Date:
Public Improvements:	Accepted by:
the City Council:	

**Submittal Log**

NO.	Description	DATE
1	Draft Submittal No. 1	6-4-20

**Revisions**

NO.	Description	DATE

**Revisions**

NO.	Description	DATE

City of Los Altos  
COVID-19  
Downtown Recovery  
Downtown Street Plazas

**RECOMMENDED FOR BIDDING BY:**

DATE:	
APPROVED FOR BIDDING BY:	
DATE:	

**PROJECT NO.**

DRAWING NO.	
EA. NO.	
SCALE	None
Sheet	1